

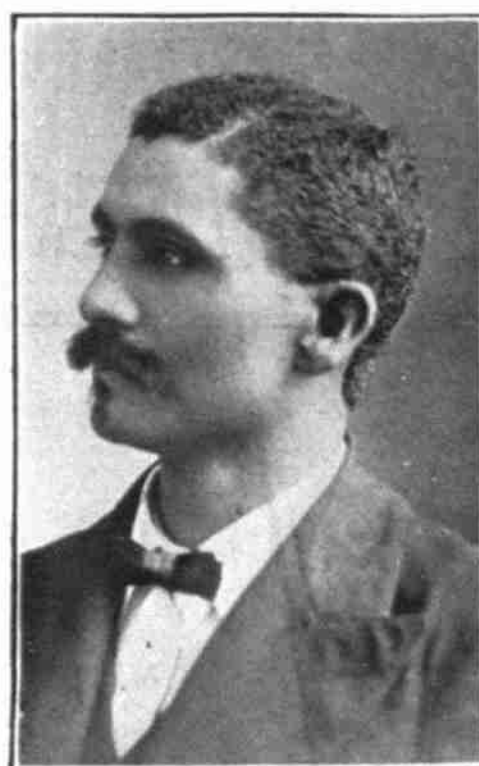
# The Christian Education of the Negro

By the National Negro Baptist Convention

Rev. E. C. MORRIS, D.D., President, Helena, Ark.

THE first colored Baptist church was instituted at Brampton's barn, three miles from Savannah, Ga., January 20, 1788, by Abraham Marshall (a white man) and Jesse Peter, colored.

Four members constituted the nucleus of the colored Baptists in America. To-day there are 17,000 Negro Baptist churches and 2,500,000 members, with a property valuation of \$13,000,000.



REV. E. C. MORRIS, D.D.  
President National Negro Baptist Convention since 1895

There are 517 local Baptist associations, 43 state conventions, and the National Baptist Convention which meets annually.

The National Negro Baptist Convention represents the consolidation in 1895 of the three great bodies of colored Baptists then doing work along missionary, Sunday-school, and educational lines.

Membership in the National Negro Baptist Convention consists of representatives of churches, Sunday-schools, local associations, and state conventions of colored Baptists, and of such individual Baptists as choose to join.

The national organization, effected September 28, 1895, at Atlanta, has for its object, "To do mission work in the United States, Africa, and elsewhere abroad; to foster the cause of education, and to promote the circulation of religious literature."

## Fifty-seven Educational Institutions

Rev. W. Bishop Johnson, D.D., LL.D., of Washington, D.C., in "The Story of Negro Baptists," published January 30, 1909, in the *National Baptist Union*, Nashville, Tenn., the accredited organ of the denomination, says: "There are 57 schools among colored Baptists, 31 of which are supported by the American Baptist Home Mission Society of New York, the colored people coöperating in their support, and 26 that are owned and controlled by colored Baptists under the National Baptist Educa-

tional Board, located at Nashville, Tenn. These schools range from the high school to the university. Colored Baptists own 9 colleges and 17 schools for secondary education, while the American Baptist Home Mission Society holds 12 colleges in trust for them and operates 19 secondary schools. This society contributed in 1906 \$201,779.66 to the support of the institutions, and since 1864, for salaries of teachers, school properties, equipments, \$4,378,746. The valuation of their property is \$1,200,000. The colored Baptists received contributions for 1906 of \$80,000, and their property is valued at \$600,000.

"The Colored Women's Baptist National Convention owns and operates a school in the District of Columbia valued at \$15,000 — the National Training School for Women and Girls.

## Home Mission Work

"Colored Baptists do home mission work through the Home Mission Board. This board coöperates with the Southern Baptist Convention. They support 66 missionaries, and collected in 1906 \$17,628.30. Their field is North America, but their operations have been confined chiefly to the southern states. The Home Mission Board operates the largest and best-equipped Sunday-school publishing house among colored people, located at Nashville, Tenn., which has a property valuation of \$200,000, and did a business in 1906 of \$160,152.14. It publishes the denominational literature.

"The foreign mission work is done by the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention located at Louisville, Ky. It operates in West Coast, Africa; Cape Colony, South Africa; Central Africa, Transvaal, Orange River Colony, Natal, Southeast; West Indies, Barbadoes, Hayti, South America, British Guiana, and Russia Nicolarieff. It has 53 native helpers and 25 employed as missionaries or agents. It raised, in 1906, \$19,006.04, and since 1901, \$91,697.16."

The colored Baptists have the National Baptist Young People's Union, with headquarters at Nashville. This union has raised \$50,000 during the past ten years. In addition, the Baptists own and operate a score of religious and denominational papers.

The National Baptist Benefit Association, one of the boards provided for by the National Convention, is an insurance department. It paid \$2,600 in death claims in 1907. A department to aid "aged and decrepit ministers" is about to be added.